

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
FEDERAL MARITIME  
COMMISSION**

Announcement No.: 2008-07  
Issue Date: 03/27/08  
Closing Date: 04/25/08  
Area of Consideration: All Sources\*

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**POSITION:** Industry Economist, GS-0110-09/11/12/13  
[2 Positions]

**ORGANIZATION LOCATION:** Bureau of Trade Analysis  
Office of Economics and Competition Analysis

**PROMOTION POTENTIAL:** GS-13

**GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION:** 800 North Capitol Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20573-0001

**SALARY RANGE:** GS-09: \$48,108 - \$62,546 Per Annum  
GS-11: \$58,206 - \$75,669 Per Annum  
GS-12: \$69,764 - \$90,698 Per Annum  
GS-13: \$82,961 - \$107,854 Per Annum  
[Locality Pay Area of Washington, D.C.]

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\*CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO STATUS AND NON-STATUS CANDIDATES (RESIDING IN THE LOCAL COMMUTING AREA) AND TO INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR NONCOMPETITIVE APPOINTMENT, e.g., INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT UNDER SCHEDULE A, CERTAIN VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM ERA AND VETERANS OF THE POST-VIETNAM ERA WHO ARE QUALIFIED FOR EMPLOYMENT UNDER THE VETERANS READJUSTMENT APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY, AND DISABLED VETERANS RATED AT 30% OR MORE. VETERANS WHO ARE PREFERENCE ELIGIBLES OR WHO HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FROM THE ARMED FORCES UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS AFTER 3 YEARS OR MORE OF SUBSTANTIALLY CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE MAY ALSO APPLY (VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT).

APPLICANTS WILL BE EVALUATED ON THE BASIS OF EXPERIENCE AND THE QUALITY RANKING FACTORS DESCRIBED BELOW. THEREFORE, IT IS CRITICAL THAT ALL INFORMATION CONCERNING EXPERIENCE PERTINENT TO THESE FACTORS BE ADDRESSED IN THE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THIS VACANCY. APPLICANT MUST SHOW CLEARLY THE EXTENT TO WHICH HE/SHE POSSESSES THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES DESCRIBED BELOW.

The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) is an independent regulatory agency tasked with the regulation of oceanborne transportation in the foreign commerce of the United States, whose mission is to (1) develop and administer policies and regulations that foster a fair, efficient and secure maritime transportation system; (2) protect U.S. maritime commerce from unfair foreign trade practices and market-

distorting activities; (3) facilitate compliance with U.S. shipping statutes through oversight and outreach; and (4) assist in resolving disputes. More information about the Commission and its programs is available at <http://www.fmc.gov>.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** The incumbent will perform complex economic and other evaluative analyses to carry out the Commission's responsibilities set forth in various maritime statutes, which include the Shipping Act of 1984, as amended. Specifically, the incumbent will (a) apply contemporary economic techniques in reviewing proposed or existing agreements between or among ocean carriers and/or marine terminal operators engaged in U.S. ocean foreign commerce in order to evaluate the anticipated or actual competitive impact on transportation cost or service levels of activities undertaken pursuant to the authorities contained in those agreements; (b) assist staff attorneys in adjudicatory proceedings before the Commission, and the Office of General Counsel in proceedings before the Federal District Courts by developing, analyzing and evaluating economic evidence introduced, or to be introduced, and by providing expert witness testimony, in the defense of conclusions and findings under cross examination; (c) as assigned, monitor ocean carrier activities to detect carrier's participation in prohibited acts, as set forth in laws or regulations; (d) attend and participate in meetings with maritime officials; (e) review, analyze and evaluate market conditions in the U.S. liner trades and the structure, conduct and performance of carriers participating in those trades and the liner industry generally; (f) monitor the activities of controlled carriers and assess their rates, tariff rules and charges to ensure they are just and reasonable as set forth in the maritime statutes; (g) conduct cost-benefit analysis of proposed Commission regulations; and (h) provides technical economic analysis, either orally or in writing, on new or unique policy issues, complaints, or petitions that come before the Commission.

**DUTY STATION:** Washington, D.C.

**U.S. citizenship required.**

**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** All applicants are required to meet the qualification requirements listed in the OPM Operating Manual for Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions (which is available for review in any Federal Personnel Office or online at [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov)). Those requirements are summarized below:

**All applicants must evidence successful completion of the following requirements in a. or b. below:**

- a. Degree in economics that included at least 21 semester hours in economics and 3 semester hours in statistics, accounting, or calculus **OR**
- b. Combination of education and experience – courses equivalent to a major in economics, as shown in (a) above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

In addition to meeting the basic entry qualification requirements, applicants must have specialized experience and/or directly related education as shown below. Specialized experience is experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the

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normal line of progression for the occupation in the organization.

**GS-09:** All applicants must possess 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-7 level, **OR** 2 full years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a master's degree **or** master's or equivalent graduate degree.

**GS-11:** All applicants must possess 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-9 level **OR** 3 years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a Ph.D. degree **OR** Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree.

**GS-12:** All applicants must possess 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-11 level. There is no substitution of education allowed at the GS-12 level.

**GS-13:** All applicants must possess 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-12 level. There is no substitution of education allowed at the GS-13 level.

**QUALITY RANKING FACTORS:** Applicants who meet the qualification requirements described above will be further evaluated by determining the extent to which their education, work experience or related training, awards and performance appraisals indicate they possess or have the potential to acquire the following knowledge, skills, and abilities. **THESE QUALITY RANKING FACTORS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN ORDER TO BE GIVEN APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION UNDER THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.**

1. Skill in transforming microeconomic, macroeconomic, statistical and econometric theory into practical use, i.e., capable of analyzing a problem or issue, developing alternatives, and recommending a solution.
2. Skill in preparing economic reports, quantitative studies and forecasts using personal computers and various computer software.
3. Skill in using economic and econometric principles to analyze and detect anti-competitive practices, and to effectively present results orally and in writing.
4. Economic skills in one or more of the following areas: antitrust, international trade, or maritime transportation economics.
5. Ability to work independently and creatively within broad guidelines to conceptualize and develop guidelines, procedures, approaches, etc., for analyzing novel or unique issues.

**HOW TO APPLY:** All applicants should furnish the following (**FAILURE TO SUBMIT ALL REQUIRED FORMS OR INFORMATION MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF CONSIDERATION FOR THE POSITION**):

1. A current, **complete** application, e.g., an Optional Form 612 (Optional Application for Federal Employment), a resume, or any other application in written format (**required**).

The following information **must** be contained in your application:

- a. announcement number, title, and grade(s) - please indicate lowest grade acceptable
- b. full name, mailing address, day and evening phone numbers
- c. social security number

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- d. country of citizenship
  - e. Forms DD-214 and/or SF-15 as appropriate (proof of veterans' preference)
  - f. highest Federal civilian grade held (give job series and dates held)
  - g. education level:
    - (1) High school (name, city, state, and date of diploma or GED)
    - (2) Colleges or Universities (name, city, state, major field of study, and type and year of any degree received - if no degree(s), show total credits earned and indicate whether semester or quarter hours)
  - h. work experience (give the job title, duties, employer's name and address, supervisor's name and phone number, starting and ending dates, hours per week, salary, and indicate if we may contact your current supervisor)
  - i. job-related training courses (title and year)
  - j. job-related skills (e.g., other language skills, computer software/hardware skills)
  - k. job-related honors, awards, and special accomplishments (e.g., publications, memberships in professional or honor societies, public speaking, etc.);
2. A copy of the most recent performance appraisal and performance plan (elements and standards for achievement, if not indicated clearly on the annual performance appraisal), **(required of all current Federal employees)**;
  3. A copy of the last or latest SF-50, "Notification of Personnel Action" **(required of all current Federal employees and of candidates applying on the basis of their reinstatement eligibility)**;
  4. College or university transcript showing total credits and degree(s) earned **(required of all candidates; unofficial copies may be provided but applicants must be prepared to provide official transcripts, upon request)**.
  5. Supplemental narrative statement addressing the quality ranking factors **(required)**.

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

**Applications must be received or postmarked\* no later than the closing date of the announcement and should be sent to the Federal Maritime Commission, Office of Human Resources, Room 924, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20573, Attn: Wanda Fisher, Human Resources Specialist. Also, the following methods of receipt apply:**

1. Applications can be e-mailed to: [humanresources@fmc.gov](mailto:humanresources@fmc.gov). All e-mailed applications **must** be sent as an attachment in MS Word or WordPerfect format. Applications included in the body of the e-mail or in other formats will **NOT** be considered. Applications submitted electronically should be received in our agency e-mail system **by the closing date** of the announcement. Additional application materials may be faxed to the agency at the number shown below **by the closing date** of the announcement.
2. Applications can be faxed to the FMC at: **202-523-7842**.
3. Applications can be sent to the FMC via a private delivery service such as UPS, FedEx, etc.

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**\*PLEASE NOTE:** If you choose to use the USPS or private delivery service to mail your application, it must be received in our Office no later than one week following the closing date in order to be considered. No exceptions will be made to this requirement.

For further information regarding this announcement contact Wanda Fisher on (202) 523-5773 or by e-mail at [humanresources@fmc.gov](mailto:humanresources@fmc.gov). **NOTE:** The filing of job applications is a personal matter, not official government business. Such personal mail is, therefore, subject to payment of postage by the employee. Applications received in official postage-paid or government franked envelopes will not be acknowledged or considered. Applications submitted become the property of the Federal Maritime Commission and will not be returned.

As a condition of employment, new appointees to the Federal service will be subject to a background investigation.

New appointments to the Federal Government are made at the minimum rate of the grade, e.g., step 1, except in certain rare instances as determined by OPM.

Relocation expenses will not be paid.

All status applicants must meet time-in-grade requirements.

Status candidates who wish to be rated under both merit promotion and OPM's competitive process must submit 2 complete applications. Please clearly indicate on your application or resume the procedure under which you are applying and include proof of your eligibility for any special appointing authority. If only one application is received, it will be considered under the merit promotion program.

If selected, applicants must complete an OF-306, "Declaration for Federal Employment." Failure to comply may be grounds for withdrawal of an offer of employment. Selectees will be required to provide documentation that establishes his/her identity and employment eligibility as required by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-103, dated November 6, 1986).

Male selectees born after December 31, 1959 must complete a Pre-Appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration. Failure to comply may be grounds for withdrawal of an offer of employment or termination after employment.

Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP)/Career Transition Assistance Plan (CTAP) eligibles must be well-qualified for the position in order to receive special selection priority. To be considered well-qualified, candidates must meet all eligibility and qualifications requirements and must meet the fully successful level using the established rating criteria. Documentary evidence, e.g., Reduction-in-Force (RIF) Notice, Certification of Expected Separation, SF-50 documenting separation by RIF, or a letter from OPM or your agency documenting your priority consideration status **MUST** accompany your application in order to receive special selection priority.

Displaced District of Columbia Government, Department of Corrections employees will be eligible for

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priority consideration and competitive appointment (Public Law 105-274). Eligible candidates are not restricted by geographic location or grade level in jobs for which they apply. Documentary evidence is the same as stated above.

This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and/or hiring process, please contact the Office of Human Resources on (202) 523-5773. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case-basis.

**The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.**

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